

CHARTERS VS. THE STATEWIDE AVERAGE

Charters Continue to Outpace State Results

- Michigan charters outpaced the state average gains in 7 of 10 grades/subjects, including a gain in two instances when the state lost ground
- Charter 7th-graders improved their passage of the reading test by 14 percentage points. They improved in writing by 9 points. (State gains were 12 and 6 points, respectively.)
- Charter 4th-graders improved their passage rate in reading by 5 points. (The state gain was 3 points.)
- When viewed over time, (back to the launch of current tests), charter gains outpace the state by 1.5 times or more in 7 of 10 grades/subjects. 7th-grade reading climbed 17 points; 4th-grade reading increased 14. 8th-grade math increased 14 points; 4th-grade math increased 16.
- Charters have had greater success than all Michigan schools combined in reducing the number of students scoring in the lowest performance level on 8 of 10 tests. It doubled or better the percentage of students moving up and out of level 4 in 7 of 10 grades.

8th-Grade Social Studies

All data below represent percentages.
Charter scores in red exceed statewide results.

Students Passing Test		1999-05 Decrease in Students at Level 4 (lowest achievers)	
'05	'04	2005 Gains Over '04	1999-05 Gains
Charter	20	17	6.1
State	30	29	2.5

8th-Grade Science

Students Passing Test		2002-05 Decrease in Students at Level 4 (lowest achievers)	
'05	'04	2005 Gains Over '04	2002-05 Gains
Charter	44	45	1.89
State	65	66	-1.74

8th-Grade Math

Students Passing Test		2002-05 Decrease in Students at Level 4 (lowest achievers)	
'05	'04	2005 Gains Over '04	2002-05 Gains
Charter	46	47	14.2
State	62	63	8.4

7th-Grade Reading

Students Passing Test		2003-05 Decrease in Students at Level 4 (lowest achievers)	
'05	'04	2005 Gains Over '04	2003-05 Gains
Charter	62	48	16.6
State	73	61	11.4

All data below represent percentages.
Charter scores in red exceed statewide results.

7th-Grade Writing

	Students Passing Test '05	2005 Gains Over '04	2003-05 Gains	2003-05 Decrease in Students at Level 4 (lowest achievers)	2005 Gains Over '04	2002-05 Gains	2002-05 Decrease in Students at Level 4 (lowest achievers)
Charter	46	37	-2.2	-1.0	8.8	16.07	15.05
State	54	47	-3.01	-0.7	6.3	7.76	5.98

4th-Grade Math

	Students Passing Test '05	2005 Gains Over '04	2002-05 Gains	2002-05 Decrease in Students at Level 4 (lowest achievers)
Charter	56	55	0.6	15.05
State	72	73	-0.73	5.98

5th-Grade Science

	Students Passing Test '05	2005 Gains Over '04	2002-05 Gains	2002-05 Decrease in Students at Level 4 (lowest achievers)
Charter	60	61	-0.6	10.2
State	79	78	0.6	3.6

4th-Grade Reading

	Students Passing Test '05	2005 Gains Over '04	2002-05 Gains	2002-05 Decrease in Students at Level 4 (lowest achievers)
Charter	70	65	4.6	10.1
State	82	80	2.7	3.8

5th-Grade Social Studies

	Students Passing Test '05	2005 Gains Over '04	1999-05 Gains	1999-05 Decrease in Students at Level 4 (lowest achievers)
Charter	13	16	-3.4	-5.6
State	26	31	-4.5	-5.3

4th-Grade Writing

	Students Passing Test '05	2005 Gains Over '04	2002-05 Gains	2002-05 Decrease in Students at Level 4 (lowest achievers)
Charter	35	34	0.7	1.9
State	46	48	-2.8	0.9

Additional Facts about Michigan's Charter Public Schools:

Charters receive an average \$1,473 less per student, saving taxpayers about \$122 million this year.

Charter students are 55% African American, compared to a state average of 19%.

About 88% of charter students are from major metro areas.

About 9% of charter students have special needs. Some charter schools have very high special education rates because of their determination to help "learning disabled" students conquer their challenges and flourish academically.

Michigan Charter Schools 2005 MEAP Results Across the State:

Detroit-area charters exceed Detroit Public Schools in all 7th- and 8th-grade subjects, once again showing the longer students study in charters, the more they excel. Since current MEAP tests were introduced, Detroit-area charters have moved a greater percentage of students than DPS out of the lowest achievement level.

Flint-area charters exceed Flint Community Schools in all 5th-, 7th-, and 8th-grade subjects. Charters also have had much greater success than FCS moving students into the top achievement level, in which children exceed state standards.

Grand Rapids-area charters exceed Grand Rapids Public Schools in all 10 grades/subjects. Charters top GRPS by more than 20 points in 8 of 10 grades/subjects, including by more than 40 points in 8th-grade science & 4th-grade math.



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2005 MEAPs Show Charters Continue to Close Achievement Gap

Latest MEAP results show students attending Michigan's charter public schools continue to outpace their peers by posting greater year-over-year gains.

Charter children showed **greater progress than the state average in 7 of 10 grades/subjects** on the 2005 MEAPs. Charter students had a 9 percentage-point climb in 7th-grade writing, compared to a state average increase of 6 points. In 4th-grade reading, charter scores escalated 5 points; the state average increased 3 points.

"This is strong achievement for Michigan's charter public schools," said Dan Quisenberry, president of the Michigan Association of Public School Academies.

"This achievement is even more notable because 88 percent of charter students are in urban schools. Most charters serve communities that know academic decay far too well — where children often are one, two and even three years behind by fourth or fifth grades," he said.

"Charters are reversing the trend of urban failure, increasing knowledge, confidence and belief in the future, child by child."

Other highlights from the 2005 MEAP analysis show:

- Charters significantly outpace their peers in overall gains achieved since current MEAP tests were introduced, **moving more students into the top achievement level and more students out of the lowest performance level.**

Charters had a 24-point decline in students at the lowest level in 8th-grade science, compared to a 15-point decrease statewide the past three years. Charters showed a 10-point decline in students at the lowest level in 4th-grade reading the past two years, compared to a 4-point decrease statewide.

In 7th-grade reading, charter students had a 17-point increase the past two years, while the statewide average climbed 11 points.

- In raw scores, **Detroit-area charter public schools continued to exceed the local traditional district in all 7th- and 8th-grade subjects** — again showing the longer students study in charters, the more they excel.

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In 7th-grade writing, 49 percent of Detroit-area charter students passed the MEAP test, compared to 34 percent of the traditional district's students — a 15-point difference. In 7th-grade reading, 61 percent of Detroit-area charter students passed the MEAP, compared to 48 percent of traditional school students — a 13-point difference.

The David Ellis Academy in Detroit exceeded the state average in 7 of 10 subjects (the state average is higher than Detroit Public Schools in every case). Nearby A.G.B.U. Alex & Marie Manoogian School in Southfield exceeded state average in 8 of 10 subjects.

- **Flint-area charter public schools exceed the passing rate of the local traditional district in all 5th-, 7th-, and 8th-grade subjects** — including scores 12 or more points higher in all 8th-grade subjects and in 7th-grade reading.

The Academy of Flint not only topped the local district, it beat the higher state average in 9 of 10 subjects — 98 percent of its 4th-graders passed the reading test, as did 94 percent of its 7th-graders. Nearby Holly Academy beat the state average in 8 of 10 subjects.

- **Grand Rapids-area charter public schools combined to beat not only the local district average in every case, but also the significantly higher state average in 7 of 10 subjects.** Chandler Woods Charter Academy in Belmont, Excel Charter Academy in Grand Rapids and Walker Charter Academy in Walker beat the state average in 10 of 10 subjects. Cross Creek Charter Academy in Byron Center and Vanguard Charter Academy in Wyoming beat the state average in 8 of 10 subjects, as did Knapp Charter Academy in Grand Rapids in 7 of 10 subjects.

For a complete set of MEAP fact sheets on a statewide basis and for charters in Detroit, Flint, Grand Rapids and Lansing, visit www.charterschools.org.

2005 MDE Report to the State Board & Legislature
Re: Michigan's Charter Public Schools

STATEMENT FROM THE MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMIES
May 10, 2005

2005 Report Tracks Academic Victories Despite Receipt of Less Funding

The 2005 Michigan Department of Education's report on charter public schools provides strong confirmation that charter students are learning well, making up ground lost in previous schools and performing equal to or better than their local peers. All of that, despite receiving less funding than their traditional peers.

"This report officially confirms that charter public schools are good for children and for taxpayers," said Dan Quisenberry, president of the Michigan Association of Public School Academies.

"The longer students stay in charters, the more they exceed their peers academically. It shows that African Americans who reach 7th and 8th grade in charters outperform their local peers and those across the state," he said. "At the same time, charters receive an average \$1,473 less per student."

Further findings include:

- Charter students are 55% African American, compared to a state average of 19%. The charter student body is 62% minority, compared to 26% in traditional schools — nearly 2.5 times higher.
- Major metro areas and their suburban edges are home to 81% of charters; these schools enroll about 88% of charter students.
- The report dismisses the claim that charters serve primarily elementary students. It shows that 62% of schools (representing 80% of students) are organized in K-7/8/9 or K-12 configurations. Only 16% of schools (11% of students) are in exclusively elementary schools.
- 2004 MEAP results show that charters in 14 "urban communities" nearly equaled their host districts in grade 4, surpassed those districts in grades 7 and 8 and again nearly tied them in high school. This achievement exists even though the "host" districts include communities such as Ann Arbor, which is known for excellent academic achievement.
- Charter schools open before 1999 scored slightly better than newer charters on the 2004 MEAPs.
- NHA, Edison, Beacon and Helicon-managed charter schools outperform their host districts — at times dramatically — on the middle school tests. Helicon schools outperform their host districts at the high school level.
- Charters with service providers outperform those that are self-managed in 7th and 8th grades.
- When it comes to Adequate Yearly Progress, 54% of charters made AYP in 2003-04, compared to 29% of the schools in their host districts.